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John Lundvall

ISSUE #98 May 1987

Crimpuille Comments

This issue sponsored by private donations. *Chairman*

"TAPS" (A Bugle Call, the last call sounded at night or over a soldier's grave.) (Sung to "TAPS.")

Florence
McCracken

10



Mother's Day

"Fades the night;
And afar goeth day.
Cometh night;
And a star
Leadeth all,
Speedeth all
To their rest.

Love, good night.
Must thou go
When the day and
the night leave me
so ? Fare thee
well; Day is gone,
Night is on."

A lot of people can't handle
prosperity--but then, most
people don't have to !



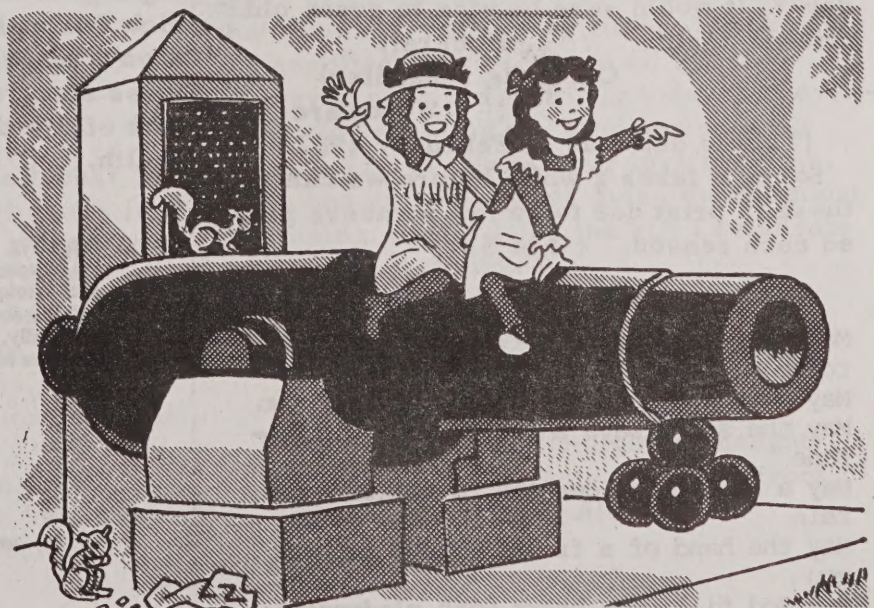
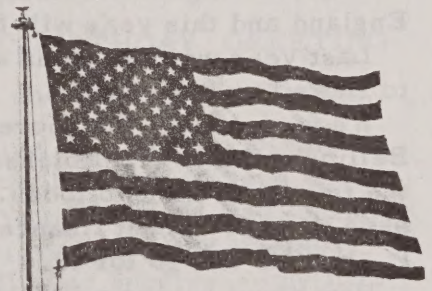
SOMEBODY'S MOTHER

The woman was feeble and old and
grey
And bent with the chill of a winter's
day,
The street was wet with a recent
snow
And the woman's step was weary
and slow.
Down the street with a laugh and
shout,
Glad in the freedom of school let out,
Came the boys like a herd of sheep,
Hailing the snow piled white and
deep.
None offering a helping hand to her,
So meek, so timid, afraid to stir...
At last came one of the merry group,
The gayest boy of all the troop.
He paused beside her and whispered
low,
"I'll help you across if you wish to
go."

He guided the trembling feet along,
Proud that his own were firm and
strong.
Then back to his friends he went,
His young heart happy and well con-
tent.

"She's somebody's mother, boys,
you know,
For all she's old and poor and slow
And I hope some fellow will lend a
hand
To help my mother, you understand,
If ever she's old and feeble and grey,
When her dear boy is far away."
Then somebody's mother bent low
her head
That night before she went to bed,
And the prayer she said was, "God,
be kind to the noble boy
Who is somebody's son and pride
and joy."

Pearl R. Domenico



LETTERS:

From Albert Spencer, Florida: (Jan.27,'87) You know you're in a small town when: "A cool day here in Florida, 45°--keep the Comments coming. I sure enjoy them. Keep up the good work." We had some days here where the weather was that "warm".

"Dear Editor:

We have received your most welcome editions of the Crimpville Comments for the past few years. They are full of wonderful memories of bygone days. I was born and grew up in Bellingham so most of the places mentioned from time to time ring a bell.

Last year we sold our home in Florida and joined many others as full time R Vers. We have seen much of our fair country and always compare it to our "roots".

We are presently in Arizona where we are 'winterizing' and plan to leave as soon as the weather in more northern states get warmer.

July and August are usually spent in New England and this year will be no exception.

Last year we took on an extensive holiday to Hawaii and the Orient.

We were one of the poorest families in Bellingham and I feel blessed that we can do the things we want to today.-----we don't have to worry about finances. If we can do it--anyone can go for it!

How about having a "HOME COMING" day? It would sure be nice to greet old friends again.

Sincerely
Gertrude (Chandler)
Woodward."

(This is dated as of February 1987.)

Sorry it takes a while before we can get these in print due to so few numbers printed each season. (4 to 5.)

IRISH BLESSINGS

May there always be work for your hands to do

May your purse always hold a coin or two
May the sun always shine on your window-pane

May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain

May the hand of a friend always be near you

May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.

EVERY WHERE USA

You miss a Sunday at church and get six-get well cards!

The day of your father's funeral the neighbors bring in enough food to feed an army!

You hear about your daughter-in-law's pregnancy before she does! (The gal who did the lab work is your next door neighbor.)

The day your kitchen caught fire you received 22 invitations to supper!

You drive into a ditch five miles out in the country and word gets back to your family before you do!

Courtesy Florence McCracken.

FARM--GONE

We would appreciate knowing if there are any more farms operating in Bellingham.

The farm over on High Street has ceased and as far as we know, this is the last one in Bellingham that supplied dairy products from a large herd of cattle. Richard Hill has been in Town for many years and has served well in more ways than one. His farm was owned by the Ray family in the early 1900's and was settled originally by a "Holbrook" group.

It is disturbing to witness the end of such an important activity that was so vital to the community.

So, to "Dick" and family, thank you for being a good neighbor and for being a part of the rich Bellingham heritage. "May the wind be always at your back". May success and happiness along with peace follow you over the path of life that shall be filled with the best of health.

JUST LISTENING IN

"NOW, children," said their mother, "don't bother your father. If you want anything wait until he gets through driving that nail."

"We don't want anything, ma," her cherubs replied cheerfully. "We're just waiting to hear what he says when he hits his thumb."

READ 'EM AND WEEP

SOMETHING OLD?

Her corsage was of white orchids and lilies of the alley.

—Dallas (Tex.) Times-Herald.

NOT ALL HISTORY FOUND IN BOOKS.

Guest- - - Beverly Beckham

"Tell me about the war, Dad ?" I ventured, a long time ago when I was a child and needed a story to take to school.

"Were you scared ? Did you think you might die ?"

"Your father doesn't like to talk about the war," my mother scolded. "Run along and do your homework."

"But this is my homework !" I protested.

Later she queries her father--. "How come you never talk about the past ?" I asked him.

"Why should I ? It's over. Buried.Gone."

"But I don't want it to be. I want you to tell me things so I can tell my children and they can tell theirs."

For five minutes I caught a glimpse of the child he used to be. He told me about climb-aboard a horse-drawn cart in the predawn of summer mornings to deliver gelatin with his father; then lying awake in the evenings, listening with his brothers while his father played piano in the barroom across the street.

Then he stopped, suddenly, the child gone, the man back in control. "This stuff isn't important," he insisted.

BUT he's wrong. It IS IMPORTANT. It's the only thing that is. Our pasts, our histories are the essence of our lives. Why else are we here if not to learn, then SHARE what we have learned ? ALL of knowledge is not contained within the pages of books, I told him. A bit of it lies within each of us.

AND that bit is what we're all here to share."

Courtesy--Boston Herald, March 3, 1987.

Here was a story that told so well what our philosophy has been these over 14 years in an effort to relate the PAST that cannot be found in books, via our "CRIMPVILLE

COMMENTS". Your response has been overwhelming while you "dig" into your memory and reminisce among the joys of your childhood; Events that have now become most precious.

Thank you, Beverly for your ability to express our dedicated efforts for us. We hope that our "FANS" will better understand us. 3

We hope that this story will inspire many more to relate their childhood or older experiences to their offspring. This will prevent their struggle later on while trying to uncover their "tree" and ancestry as you 'pass' your life on to them.

We have to always remember that the foundation of the present can only be built on the foundation of the PAST !

Your generous support of our nostalgic paper is proof enough of your keen interest in our humble attempt to communicate the past events of life in Bellingham.

A kind word such as the following helps to "make our Day": "Thanks for helping me to remember." We try so hard to where we can say, "GOTCHA." Thanks.

* * * * *

We have a lesson to learn from the recent tragedy of Robert McFarlane's attempt to take his life--"We mean more to others than we do to ourselves." Think about it.

* * * * *

A REVERSE BIRTHDAY GREETING

"For you, Mom and Dad, on my Birthday.

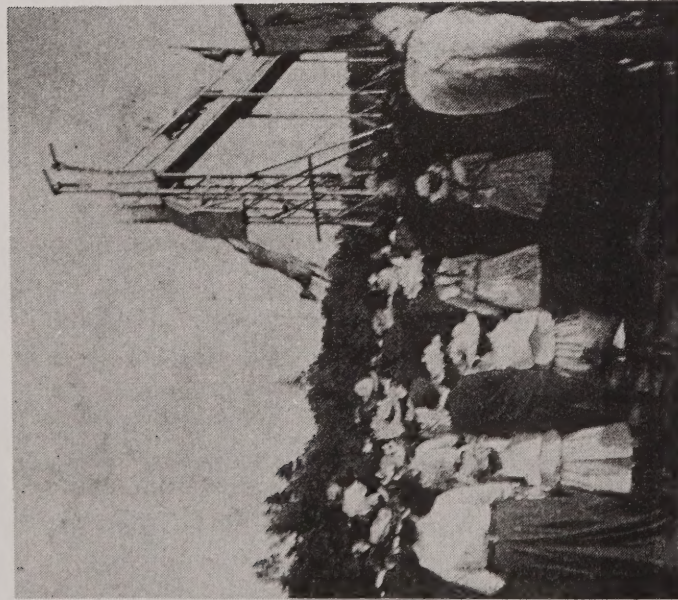
I usually receive cards on my birthday, but just this once, I wanted to send one. I want to thank you, Mom and Dad, because a long time ago, you gave me the most precious gift I'll ever receive---my life. It's a gift I can share with others, a gift that grows in value over time. Thank you for enabling me to receive all the love showered upon me, not only today, but everyday, for enabling me to experience all that life has to offer...your love, my time, life's beauty. You have given me the most promising, useful gift, the gift I celebrate today and every day.

Mom and Dad...thank you for me."

Barbara Lemke.

Courtesy Joan Holt.

A most unusual and delightful thought to bring the sunshine into our lives from the "BLUE MOUNTAIN ARTS."

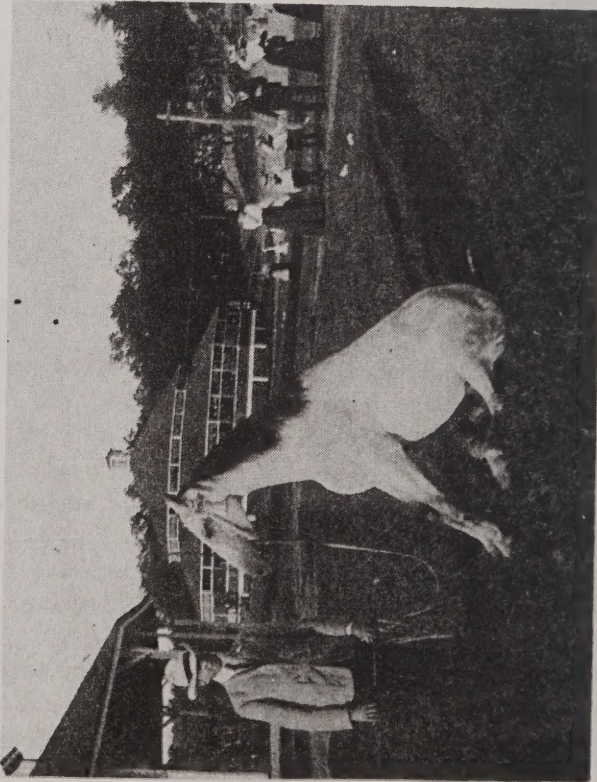


Diving horses at
Hoag (Silver) Lake
About 1902-03.

Photos by
T. R. Smiddy of
Millis, Mass.

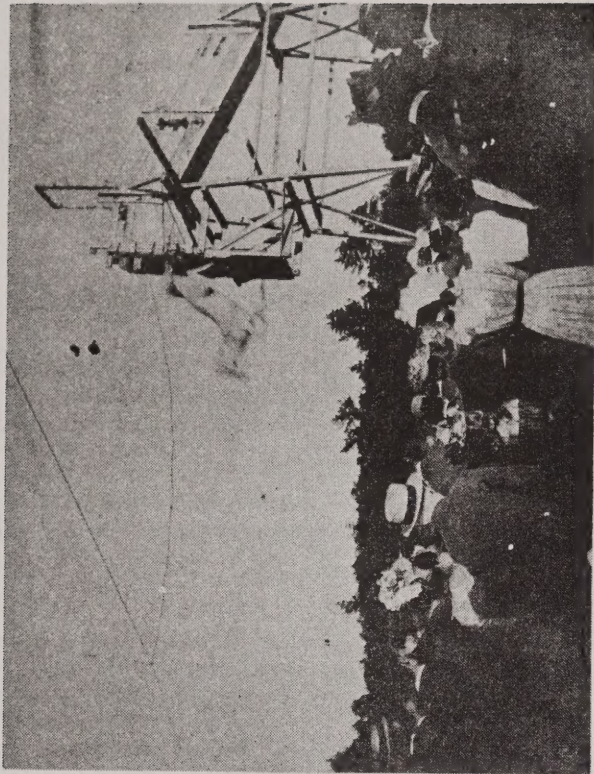
Note horses making
dive in both pictures.

4

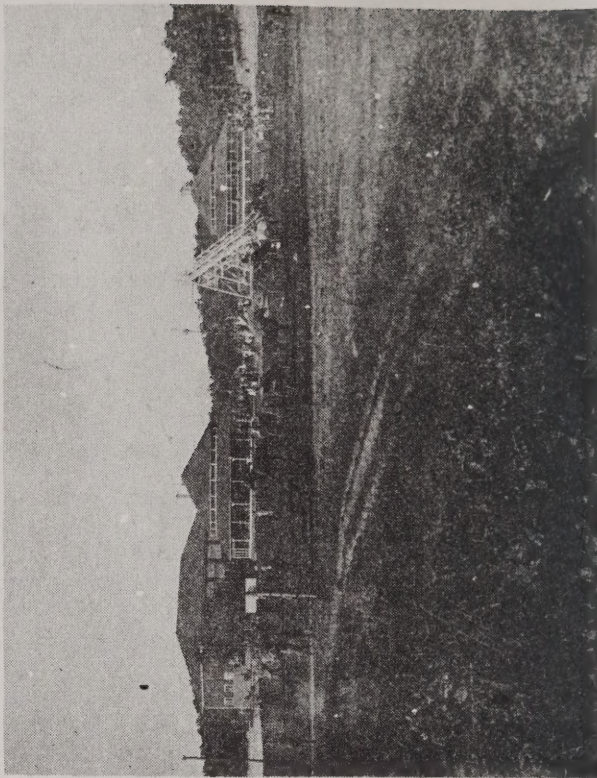


One of
the
diving
horses.

Courtesy
Catherine
Crooks.



General view of the amusement area.



We are pleased to welcome another guest Editor, Alberta (Wilcox) Palmieri, who went to the Center School in the 30's. She relates her childhood experiences in Bellingham.

"GOOD OLD DAYS IN BELLINGHAM"

In 1931 we lived in Mrs. Cormier's house on Route 140 . (Grand View Corner.) My father, Albert Wilcox, worked for Carroll White on his farm, also on Route 140. Mr. and Mrs. Martin (ROY) lived between us and the farm. There were four of us children and we spent many days at Mr. Martin's as they gave us 'goodies' to eat! We moved away then in 1934 we moved back to Scott Hill Road in a brown house on the hill just before Silver Lake Road. Here Dad Walked down to the Sheldon Farm on Scott Hill Road every morning and back at night to work. I remember my mother used to give the "Ho-Bo's" a sandwich during the morning when they would stop and ask for something to eat. They were walking towards Woonsocket or somewhere. In 1935 we moved away again and , as you know, every man has a dream in his life. Well, in 1939 Dad got a call from Mr. Thayer (Francis) (Grampa) to come to work for him; so back we came to good old Bellingham. This time we lived in the second house down from the Town Hall on North Main Street. (next to Mill St.) I'm older now and remember more than before of Bellingham. I was in the sixth grade in the Center School now. I would get up at 5 A.M., go over to help my father in the barn, go back to eat breakfast at 7 A.M. and get ready for school! After school I'd change my clothes and go back to the barn until supper time which was between 6 and 7, then do my homework and get to bed by nine so to rest for the next day.

There was some fun along with work. On moonlight nights the kids in the neighborhood and us would slide in the open fields on the farm. Thanksgiving Day we would go skating on a pond off Depot St. (Box Pond.) On Saturday night's I would eat a pint of ice cream while listening to the Barn Dance on the Radio. One day my friend, Lorraine Thayer, and I rode bare back on her old pony.

He wasn't too old to kick up his back legs and bounced me off his rearend ! No one was hurt---only my pride !

Mother passed away very suddenly with a heart attack in October of 1942. This was very sad as she had worked hard and was never sick. It happened so fast that my older sister and I had the feeling that they buried her alive. We never knew that each other had felt this way until years later when we were expressing our feelings of the day mother passed away. Every person in Bellingham Center was so nice to us in every way. We have never forgotten the lesson they taught us. "Be kind to your neighbors, also help folks in need as life is too short to fight."

Thank you, Alberta, for such a fine thought. There will still be some who will be so glad to hear that they were appreciated. There will be many who are also delighted to know --- that you cannot help thinking about happy days in Bellingham in spite of long hard days of toil.

Surely there must be others who have a story to tell as well as to let us know they are still 'around' ! Let's hear from you.

"OLD AGE"

"Old age is when you sit in a rocking chair and can't make it GO."

Courtesy DeVitt realty.

We are most grateful to Chester Hood for donations of historical material recently. A long 1828 Map showing a short-cut route from the Congregational church in Milford to the Bellingham Cumberland line through Hopedale, Mendon and Bellingham. Also a supply of wooden pegs that were used to attach heels to boots before nails were made. A large piece of leather that made the front section and calf of a boot. Thanks, Chet.

AN IRISH TOAST.

"May your roof never fall in and those under it, never fall out !"

Courtesy Florence McCracken.

1945

BELLINGHAM HONOR ROLL

In grateful appreciation

THE TOWN OF BELLINGHAM

dedicates this Honor Roll to its sons and daughters
who have served or are serving in the
Armed Forces of the United States

The Town is proud of them, and glorifies in the knowledge that their
individual efforts have contributed or are contributing in the
achievement of

VICTORY FOR AMERICA

Dedicated to those who have answered the call to the colors, and to
their families, this HONOR ROLL is a manifestation on the part of
the community to remember the sacrifices and heroic deeds of its
sons on world-wide battlefields.

Dead

EDWARD BALDIGA AUGUSTO BOZZI ARMAND LEVESQUE
WALTER LENKTIS ALBERT PREFONTAINE
HAROLD TRUDEL

A

Alexander, Alfred
Alexander, Edmund
Alexander, Kasimir
Ambler, Elmer
Ambler, Herbert, Jr.
Antosh, Joseph
Archambault, Henry
Arnold, Herbert

B

Baczuk, John
Baglini, Archimede
Baglini, Augusto
Barrette, Paul
Barrette, William
Bates, Windsor
Beauregard, Edgar
Beauregard, Hector
Beauregard, Leo
Belisle, Normand
Bernier, Adelard

B

Bernier, Joseph
Bernier, Roland
Berry, Charles
Bibeault, Robert
Bilodeau, Edward
Blais, Joseph
Boiteau, Bertrand
Boiteau, Eugene
Boiteau, Maurice
Boiteau, Robert
Bokoski, Arthur
Bokoski, Stephen
Bokoski, Victor
Bonino, Biagio
Bonollo, Mario
Bonoyer, Louis
Bourcier, Victor
Bower, Norman
Boyle, Edward
Boyle, Evelyn
Bozek, Fred
Breault, Omer
Breen, Daniel

C

Cameron, Alexander
Cameron, Harold
Cameron, Robert
Cameron, William
Camp, Richard
Campano, John
Campano, Joseph
Callahan, John
Castonguay, Gerald

Graves, Elwin G.
Graves, Lloyd A.
Gregoire, Gerard H.
Grudak, Chester
Guerin, Raymond J.
Guilbeault, Armand
Guilbeault, Joseph

H

Hall, Benjamin
Hall, William A.
Harper, James F.
Harper, Raymond E.
Harpin, Omer T. Jr.
Hebert, Gerard
Henderson, Murlin R.
Henschel, George W.
Hillsgrove, Harry G.
Hobart, Aaron A.
Hogarth, Walter
Houde, Gilbert
Houde, Leonard
Houle, Roland A.

J

Jacks, Clinton
Johnson, Wesley H.
Joseph, Christian J.
Joseph, Jacques J.

K

Kennelly, William
Kiernan, Henry H.
Kiernan, Vincent
Knights, Chester
Koloski, Stanley
Kosmesky, Peter
Kosubinski, Michael
Kornicki, Peter P.
Kozak, John
Kozak, Joseph
Kozimor, Frank S.
Krystalowicz, Wasyl
Kucharski, John
Kucharski, Steven

L

Laiame, Alfred A.
Lakeman, Leonard

Durocher, Daniel J.
Durocher, Jos. H.
Dussault, Marcel
Dussault, Maurice
Dussault, Normand
Eldredge, Emerson
Estes, Carl A.
Estes, Ida

F

Fabian, Stanley
Farnsworth, Jesse
Fitzpatrick, Alfred
Fitzpatrick, Charles
Fitzpatrick, George F.
Foley, William L.
Fontaine, Gerard
Fontaine, Normand G.
Fontaine, Roland
Forget, William
Forte, Vincent A.
Forte, Virgilio P.
Fox, Reginald G.
Froment, John E. Jr.
Froment, Leo F.

G

Gagne, Lucien P.
Gallagher, James
Gardner, James
Gardner, Lawrence H.
Garneau, Edgar
Garneau, Ernest
Garneau, Eugene
Garneau, Leo
Gaudette, Leo
Gaudini, Frank
Gaudini, Louis
Gelinas, Rodolphe
Ginras, Henry A.
Glockner, Martin
Glockner, Robert E.
Glowka, William
Godin, Alfred L., Jr.
Godin, Antonio W.
Godin, Francis
Godin, Leo L.
Gosselin, Gerald A.
Granger, Doris

D

DeJony, Andor Jr.
Denault, Alfred
Denault, Arthur N.
Denault, Victor
Desmarais, Albert
Desrochers, Alfred
Desrochers, Della
Dore, Cornelius Jr.
Dore, Edwin
Dore, John B.
Dore, Margaret
Drapeau, Robert F.
Drowne, Harold O.
Ducharme, Clarence F.
Dufresne, Wilfred B.
Dugas, Alfred H.
Dupre, Robert
Dupuis, Theodore

Struzik, Chester	W	Wasylean, Michael
Struzik, Frank		Waszkiewicz, John
Sutherland, Eugene		Wentzel, Walter
Suranie, Mitchell		Wesolowski, Dominick
Sweck, John		Whalen, Fred J.
Sweck, Alfred		Whalen, John R.
Sweck, Romeo		Whalen, Thomas H.
Szymanski, Stanley		Whipple, Charles
	T	White, Arthur
Tebeau, Leo G.		White, Carroll
Tessier, Roger		White, Edward M.
Thayer, Howard		White, Ernest A.
Trottier, Arthur		White, William C. Jr.
Trottier, Albert		White, Richard
Trottier, Leo		Whitehouse, Joseph
Trottier, Roland		Woodman, Edward
Trudeau, Lionel R.		Woodman, Walter
Trudel, Roger		Woodman, Wilbur

Y
Yates, James

Z
Zajac, Steven
Zanella, Fiorello
Zhawred, Nicholas

Roy, Roland

S

Sadowski, Edward
Sarasin, Charles
Saucier, Harry
Sauvageau, Leo
Sawicki, Joseph
Sawyer, Ernest
Scott, Edgar
Scott, Leroy
Shattuck, Eldred
Skalubinski, Victor
Slavin, Edward
Smith, Donald
Smith, Levi
Smith, John G.
Smith, Michael
Sousa, Joseph
Spas, Joseph F.
Spas, Walter
Spencer, Albert
Stafford, Lawrence
Staples, George
Staples, Halsey
Staples, Howard
Staples, Edward
Staves, Ernest A.
Stockton, Thomas

Plecker, Arthur
Plouffe, Roland
Poirier, Francis
Pouliot, Herene
Pouliot, Joseph E.
Prefontaine, Herve
Pratt, Edith
Pratt, Walter
Prefontaine, Albert R.
Proulx, Leo J.
Provincial, Firmin

R

Radio, Walter
Radyski, Eyron
Raimond, George
Rattie, Alfred
Rattie, Arthur
Rattie, Emile
Rattie, Henry E.
Rattie, Napoleon
Rattie, Valmore
Reid, Kenneth
Reid, Roy
Reid, Wallace
Remillard, Arthur
Remillard, Bertrand
Remillard, Lionel
Remillard, Roger
Rhodes, Stephen
Richard, George
Richard, Raymond
Richer, Herve
Ridolfi, John
Ridolfi, Russell
Riquier, Lionel
Rivard, Bertram
Robinson, Arthur
Robidoux, Leo
Robidoux, Paul R. J.
Robidoux, Roland
Robillard, Armand
Rock, Earl
Rogers, Earl
Rogers, Howard
Roman, Theodore
Rondeau, Roland
Roy, Noel

Marzini, Joseph
McMaster, Frederick
Melrose, George C.
Menard, Edgar R.
Meotti, Otto J.
Mercure, Edward
Mercure, Robert O.
Michalowski, Kazimiel
Monty, Bernard
Monterio, Francis
Moore, Alexander L.
Moore, Donald J.
Morgan, Edward
Mostek, Walter
Mousseau, Edward
Mowry, Herbert L.
Murray, Joseph W.

22

Nadolny, Dominic A.
Nadolny, Joseph E.
Nadolny, Stephen
Nadolny, Walter
Nickleson, Donald
Nickleson, Thomas



Ouillette, Alfred
Ouillette, Theodore

2

Palkovich, Russell
Paquin, Ephrem
Paquin, Lionel
Patrick, Lewis
Pelland, Armand
Pelland, Eugene
Pelland, Roland
Perrault, Charles
Perron, Cmer
Petrosky, Stephen Jr.
Phaneuf, Maurice
Phaneuf, Raymond
Picard, John
Pleau, Eernard
Pleau, Harold
Pleau, Leo
Pleau, William A.

Lamarque, Adrien
Lamarque, Raynald
Lanvine, Roland
Lariviere, Edgar J.
Lariviere, Herve
Lariviere, Joseph
Laroche, Normand
Larochelle, Wilfred H.
Lataille, Lester
Lataille, Normand J.
Lavallee, Leo E.
Lavallee, Wilfred
Leblanc, Adelard O.
LeBlanc, Edward
LeBlanc, Lucien
LeBlanc, Maurice H.
LeBlanc, Reginald
LeBlanc, Robert H.
LeBlanc, Wilfred
Leclair, Lionel
Leclair, Arthur
Leclaire, Normand T.
Lefebvre, Joseph
Lemire, Eugene E.
Lemire, Raymond A.
Lemoine, Walter
Lenkts, Walter C.
Levesque, Henry
Levesque, Walter A.
Levesque, Woodrow V.
Levitte, Robert
Lizotte, Albert
Lizotte, Arthur L.
Littlefield, George A.
Lomberto, Anthony
Loiselle, Gerard
Loya, Harry
Lubash, Eugene
Lussier, Albert H.

五

Manning, Henry E.
Marchand, Albert
Marchand, Joseph
Marchand, Leo
Marchand, Roland
Marchionda, Mario
Martel, Rene B.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

SLIGH RIDES



Here we go again, taking you back some 70 years as reported in the Town Report for 1917.

Those still alive today are as follows:

Mildred (Roberts) Phelps, Ruth (Haskard) Gelatt, Cora Marjorie(Rhodes) Follett.

Will they please rise and consent to being a Guest Editor; relating their experiences ?

We salute you .

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION 1917-1918

CHESTER A. RICHARDS, Chairman Term expires 1919
JOSEPH A. PALMER, Secretary, Term expires 1920
HENRY A. McCARTHY, Term expires 1918

Superintendent

F. G. ATWELL

Truant Officers

ELI E. COOK,
MOISE CHAMPAGNE,
CORNELIUS FITPATRICK
F. G. ATWELL

School Physician

DR. J. M. FRENCH

Census Enumerator

HENRY A. McCARTHY

Authorized to sign Employment Certificates for Minors between the ages of 14 and 21.

F. G. ATWELL

TEACHERS, JANUARY, 1917.

SCHOOL.	TEACHERS.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	PREPARATION.
NORTH,			
Grades 7,8,9,	Virginia Sharpe,	Jan., 1917,	Willimantic Normal.
Grades 5, 6,	Evangeline E. Calkins,	Jan., 1914,	Franklin High School.
Grades 3, 4,	Claribel Macey,	Sept., 1914,	Franklin High School.
Grades 1, 2,	Mabel Drake,	Sept., 1904,	Framingham Normal.
MASSEY,			
Grades 7,8,9,	Ann S. Burditt,	Sept., 1916,	Springfield, Vt., High.
Grades 4,5,6,	Mildred E. Roberts,	Sept., 1916,	Salem Normal.
Grades 1,2,3,	Lottie J. Burr,	Nov., 1913,	Normal Art School.
SOUTH,			
Grades 7,8,9,	Nellie H. Cummings,	Sept., 1916,	Fitchburg High School.
Grades 5, 6,	Ruth H. Haskard,	Sept., 1916,	Worcester Normal.
Grades 3, 4,	Mary G. Morrison,	Sept., 1916,	Bridgewater Normal.
Grades 1, 2,	Cora Marjorie Rhodes,	Sept., 1915,	Summer Courses.
DRAWING,	Marguerite Eastman,	Sept., 1916,	Normal Art School.



SCHOOL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION

1926-1927

Ruel S. Thayer, Chairman.....1929
 Mrs. Cora E. Rhodes, Secretary.....1927
 Mrs. Esther D. Copeland.....1928

Superintendent

CARROLL H. DROWN

Truant Officers

ALFRED NASH E. A. STAPLES
 EUGENE RIORDAN CARROLL H. DROWN

School Physician

EARL R. DEVERE, M.D.

1907 Report of the Superintendent. 1907

TEACHERS, DECEMBER, 1907.

SCHOOL.	TEACHER.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	WHERE FITTED.
NORTH.			
Grades 7, 8, 9.	Frances Hallier.	Sept. 1904.	Newburyport Training.
" 5, 6.	Freda Duplessis.	Jan. 1906.	Normal Art.
" 3-4.	Winnifred Crockwell.	Sept. 1905.	Salem Normal.
" 1, 2.	Mabel Drake.	Sept. 1904.	Framingham Normal.
MASSEY.			
Grades 7, 8, 9.	Maude Hallier.	Sept. 1905.	Framingham Normal.
" 4, 5, 6.	Madella Feltham.	Sept. 1906.	Salem Normal.
" 1, 2, 3.	Ethel Rockwell.	Sept. 1906.	Framingham Normal.
SOUTH.			
Grades 7, 8, 9.	Eva M. Jackson.	Sept. 1906.	Colby Academy.
" 3, 5, 6.	Bertha Whipple.	Sept. 1906.	Providence Normal.
" 1, 2.	Mabel D. Snow.	Sept. 1907.	Framingham Normal.

BELLLINGHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL GRADUATES

[21]

JUNE 1937

Joseph F. Spas	Viola M. Brunetti
George E. Whiting	Robert E. Cote
Anita E. Richard	Annette I. Beauregarde
Eugene E. Dugas	Edgar R. Menard
Inessa R. Gigante	Helen E. Garneau
Leo E. Robidoux	Virginia M. Burr
Yvette M. Ledoux	Frank S. Kozimor
Jeanette N. Rainey	Norma E. Rotatori
Alfred E. Godin	Edgar H. Garneau
Edward E. Mousseau	Betty M. Bruce
Mary V. Sims	Helen R. Collamati
William A. Ridge	Armand J. Robillard
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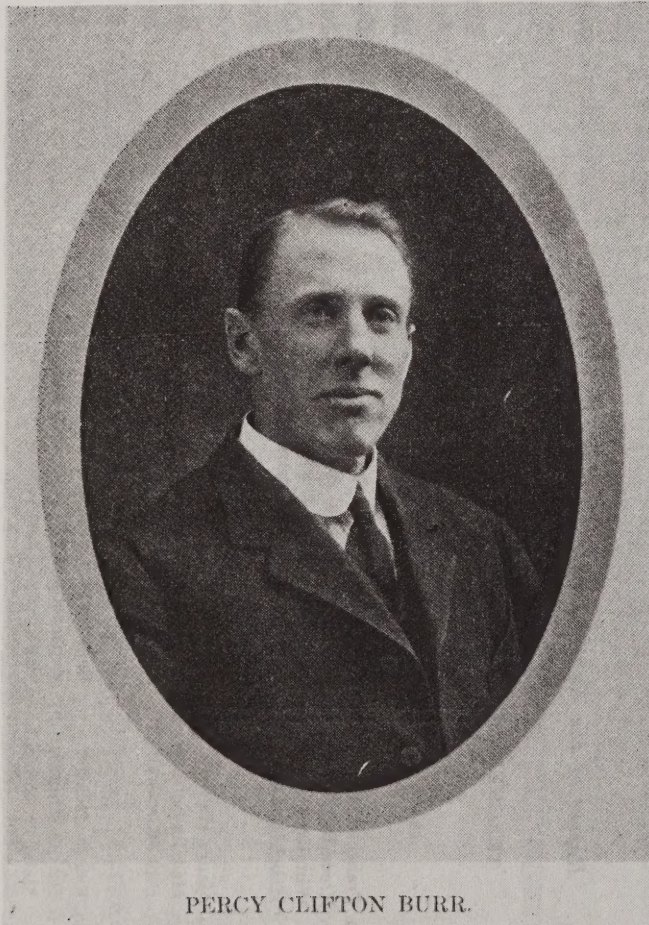
Elmer W. Ambler	Raymond J. Guerin
Audrey V. Brown	Lewis R. Patrick
Mary J. Di Pietro	Kenneth A. Reid
Barbara L. Duval	Paul S. Sahagian
John E. Froment, Jr.	Mary L. Thomas
Constance T. Godin	Olga Tucker
Frederick L. Jones	Carroll F. White
Ruth M. Dore	John A. Whelan
Margaret E. Dore	J. Russell Whelan
M. Raymond Smith	Russell F. Ridolfi
Doris M. Guyette	Helen G. Tebo

In MEMORIAM to Percy Clifton Burr.

This is the only long memorial to a fine and honorable gentleman that has ever been in any Town Report. He was a most unusual person that we, who have the pleasure of remembering him in the past, can be so grateful for such a privilege and opportunity to have been 'touched' by him.

Truly, he was as it were, a "breath" from Heaven in a chaotic world. He was the very BEST of men.

Even today--we miss him.



PERCY CLIFTON BURR.

TOWN REPORT 1926

In Memoriam

PERCY CLIFTON BURR

Percy Clifton Burr, 2nd son of Joseph Massey and Harriet Newell (Freeman) Burr, was born in Bellingham on September 9th, 1868. His home was the large two-story house his grandfather built at the Four Corners where the road running East from the centre joins the one running in from the North. This estate was for many years known as the Capt. Laban Burr Place, being one of seven houses built in that vicinity by his father Elisha Burr's family. It was about the middle of the 18th century that this Elisha's father (Elisha) and his brother Asa came over from Hingham, Mass., bought 700 acres of land from the Indians and made a new settlement. It was from the old Burr place on the North Road that Elisha II took his gun and rode down to join the Minute Men at the Battle of Concord on that memorable 18th of April, '75. "Cap'n Labe" received his commission in the War of 1812, and Joseph, of the 4th generation, served the entire duration of the Civil War. But for all that, the family was anything but war-like and clung steadfastly to the peaceful pursuits of life.

Many of the present residents of the town remember Percy as a bashful, reticent, but earnest-minded country boy attending school and church at the Centre, and as general chore boy for a while at "old George Nelscn's." Nearly all the first pay he received went generously for a 50 cent box of fireworks which he carried down home that his mother and the younger children might see a beautiful Fourth of July celebration. It lasted two or three nights. The family never forgot the glory of that display, nor the unselfishness that made it possible.

In 1883, he moved to Franklin where he went to school for a while and then took a job in Snow's Straw Shop until the family removed to the part of Northbridge, Mass., known as Rockdale. Here he worked in the Cotton Mill two years, then went into the carpentering room of the Whitin Machine Works in Whitinsville.

His mother, named for the early missionary, Harriet Newell, spent her younger days in Providence and Boston. From her he inherited a student's thirst for knowledge and always read much in his leisure hours. He owed it to mother's christian character and high ideals that the family table always held a careful selection of choice reading matter.

Along down the line of paternal ancestors, ministers, lawyers, basket makers, and farmers, there came to the unpretentious boy a quiet, judicial type of mind that enabled him to achieve considerable education in spite of his few years of schooling.

Being always of sterling character and entirely reliable, and withal a "lad o' pairts," no one was much surprised when (although only 19) the Whitin Machine Co. chose him as one of a small group of men to represent the business in the South and to set up machinery in cotton mills through the Carolinas and Georgia.

After several years with the Machine Co., Percy took a better paying position in Cambridge, Mass., but had to give it up on account of fine dust from the manufacturing of piano keys, and went to Woonsocket, R. I., whither his family had moved from Whitinsville. During the serious business depression of 1896 he took a job on the Electric Street Railroad and was employed on the city lines in Woonsocket until the M. A. & W. road was opened in the fall of 1899. He then transferred and ran cars from the State Line to Wrentham and Plainville. He continued uninterrupted service on the various branches of this System during the whole 25 years of its existence. During

all those years he was "big brother" to all the boys on the road.

Space would not permit to write of the unceasing toil, endless pains, and conscientious effort he put into those 25 years as an operator, member of Board of Arbitration, and friend to every one whom he met.

In November, 1906, Percy bought the Lucinda Rockwood Hammond estate on West side of South Main Street in Bellingham Centre, opposite Soldiers' Monument. This brought his family back to their native town where he entered immediately into the interests of the Town and contributed freely from the rich resources of his mind, heart, and experience. He had a good memory and his well-ordered mind seemed to hold an inexhaustable supply of knowledge and wisdom and sound judgment which was of great use, particularly during the years when he held Town Offices.

He served on the Board of Selectmen from 1913 to 1914, and as clerk of the Board from 1916 to 1926; also as Overseer of the Poor from 1916 to 1926, and as Town Clerk from 1915 to 1926. As a Town Official, his workmanlike and sterling qualities, his painstaking devotion and self-sacrifice, showed themselves at all times to an extraordinary degree.

When death suddenly removed Mr. Henry Whitney from his almost life-long and honorable term of service to the Town, it was to Percy that his townspeople unanimously turned for help. And so he entered upon his last and greatest work of service to his people.

As the first pennies he earned went in thoughtful expenditure for the pleasure of others—so through life he gave his almost entire effort for the good of his family and those who came his way.

We have noted the principal changes in his business life, but after all, they seem of the least possible importance—for his friends remember him most of all as

our big, dependable Brother—to whom they could (and did) go safely with every possible problem. His wealth of information, his careful opinion, his friendly advice, was at all times invaluable to all who asked of him.

Having never married, the death of his beloved mother in 1921 left him alone in his home which he kept open to the call of all who needed help. His health steadily declined through the last few years, but he never laid down his task till his body collapsed after the recount of the election ballots in March, 1926. During the next 14 weeks of complete invalidism he used every ounce of strength to gather up the reins of service he could no longer hold and handed them over one by one for stronger arms to bear.

By the 14th of June he had been able to discharge his duties, to sell his home, and be moved to Wickford, R. I., to make his home with his sister and brother-in-law, Hon. and Mrs. Clarke Potter, where he hoped eventually to recover some measure of health. At the end of that week he had a relapse, but lingered till the evening of July 17th when he answered the call to the Life Eternal where all things are made new. He was brought to his home church on July 21st, where his beloved and devoted neighbors and friends repeated their generously expressed tributes of affection and esteem, and gave him burial in the family lot in the Centre Cemetery.

Percy walked through life in sincere and plain simplicity. The real wonder of the man lay in his conspicuous capacity for unmitigated devotion to lofty ideals, his native honesty, and rare wealth of intelligent wisdom.



TOWN REPORT 1926

In Memoriam

WARREN E. FAIRBANKS

Few men have served this town as long and faithfully as Warren E. Fairbanks who died at 72 years of age last October, and no family has been more prominent than his in the north end of the town.

His great-grandfather Joseph Fairbanks came to Caryville in 1787, and started the cotton factory there in 1813, which he ran for 15 years. He was one of ten men who built the town house in 1800. Warren's father and uncle had the other chief industry of that village, the manufacture of men's boots, for 27 years, and employed at one time about 90 men.

Warren Fairbanks was educated in the schools of Caryville, Medway, Franklin, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After his father's death in 1875, he worked as a cutter in boot factories in several places for many years, and later in Boston for a jobber of cotton and woolen goods.

His unusual interest in public affairs, national as well as local, and natural qualification for understanding them, were early recognized by the town, which chose him the moderator of its annual meeting for 40 years. He was a selectman 4 years, an overseer 11 and chairman 8 years, and like his father and his uncle he represented the town in the Legislature.

His interest in fraternal organizations as well as public affairs was conspicuous, and he was a prominent Odd Fellow and Mason in the lodges of this vicinity.

He was unmarried but he and his sister always lived together in the house of their birth, and for many years his brother's family lived with them, in a home where many people liked to go. No one who knew him in any way can fail to feel our loss.

Center School Bellingham Grades 3-4 1930-1931 Teacher Carrie Forestall



Identities: 1, Edgar Garneau; 4, Charles Sarakin; 8, Mildred Slavin;
 9, Romeo Godin; 10, Leo Froment; 13, Anna Patrick; 16, Albert Spencer;
 19, Donald Moore; 20, Edna Boudreau; 22, John Froment; 23, Barbara Binks;
 25, Dorothea Russen; #28, Edward Morgan; : 29, Howard Thayer; 30, Raymond
 Cook. #6, Helen Miller; #17, Leon Osachuk; #18, Francis Veary;

Center School Bellingham Grades 5-6 1930-1931 Teacher Anna Heroux



Identities: 3. Orland DiPietro, 5. Rita Smith, 7. Olga Petrosky,

#2, Edith Bates; 8. Melvin Graves, 10 William Froment, 14. Ida Estes,

16. Jeannette Nealia, 21. Lillian Binks, 22. ? DiPietro

24. George Thompson 15. Laura Southwick, 23. Phyllis Hughes

#18, Stephen Petrosky;

Photos₁₃ Courtesy Laura Drown



Identities

1. Susan Estes, 2. James Yates, 3. Dora Shahtay, 14. ? DiPietro
19. Evelyn Knights

Center School Bellingham Grades 3-4 1933-1934 Teacher Agnes Riley



IDENTITIES

1. Agnes Riley, Teacher
2. Raymond Harper
3. Lenore deJony
4. Anna Slavin
5. Victor Brodeur
6. Carolyn Wilcox
7. Marian Kay (?)
8. Frederick Hunter
9. Elizabeth Gardner
10. Claire Patrick
11. Grace Cook
12. Richard White
13. Pauline Sarakin
14. Louise Wild
15. Grace Slavin

16. Nancy Fawcett
17. Eunice Aldrich
18. Eileen Sanford
19. Ruth Chamberlain
20. Grace Wilcox
21. Lloyd Brown
22. Florence Mooney
23. Wyman Cook
24. Norman Belcher

25. Gordon Curtis
26. John Hunter
27. Leona Moore
28. George Sarakin
29. Shirley Hunter
30. Evangeline Lund
31. Catherine Mabey
32. Emil Pouliot
33. Wilber Gardner
34. Rita Coe
35. Hazel White
36. Geneva Mabey

Photos Courtesy

Laura Drown

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Doris King, Barbara Vekeman, Henry/
Althea Marsolini.

We were surprised to receive a lot of info
on the "Stanley Steamer" from Peter
Matheson in Town. Obviously he is a real
steamer buff. We don't blame him..
There is now a museum in Kingfield, ME.
that feature memorabilia of the Stanley's
who were twin brothers and inventors.
They also made violins. Kingfield is
located at the junction of routes 16, 27
and 142 and about 22 miles north of Farm-
ington, Maine. Also about 62 miles above
Lewiston. In the distant future we hope
that steam will again come back into its
own and remove most of the pollution that
is prevalent today. Thank you, Peter.
We invite you to be a Guest Editor on this
famous mode of transportation to spark
up more interest in the power of STEAM.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

SINCERITY (Sin!)

A little old lady muttered her final
good-byes to the minister who was leav-
ing for a higher paying pastorate. "I'm
so sorry you're going," she said. "I
never knew what sin really was until you
came here!"

Now this is more like it--!

Following the Sunday morning worship
a devoted lady shook the minister's hand
and remarked, "It was a wonderful sermon
Pastor. Everything you said applies to
most people I know!" Hmmm!

Commission members are delighted to
receive such enthusiasm from folks when
we deliver a new "Comments" issue, such
as: "We are so glad that you've come with
another of your interesting, informative
paper, thank you so much." And what do
you know! ? They drop whatever they are
doing to 'peek' into its pages! OR-"We
enjoy the "Comments" and eagerly look
forward to receiving each issue when you
deliver it." All this as they slip a much
needed donation, to help support our humble
efforts, into our hands. Thanks, folks, it
makes "our day".

Oftimes we wonder if some children do
not bring home to you parents each issue
that has been given to them at school ???
Even today there are people who have yet
to hear about the Commission paper.
It is a puzzle because we are now in our
FIFTEENTH year of publishing! This is
our 98th issue since we began in February
of 1973. Please let us know if you have
been neglected.